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- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*):
NORCHIP A/S [NO/NO]; Industriveien 8, N-3490
Klokkarstua (NO).
- (71) Applicant (*for MG only*): **ALLARD, Susan, Joyce**
[GB/GB]; Boulton Wade Tennant, Verulam Gardens, 70
Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8BT (GB).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): **KARLSEN, Frank**
[NO/NO]; Hovkastet 2, N-3490 Klokkarstua (NO).
- (74) Agents: **BALDOCK, Sharon, Claire et al.**; Boulton Wade
Tennant, Verulam Gardens, 70 Gray's Inn Road, London
WC1X 8BT (GB).
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(54) Title: **METHOD FOR DETECTING HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS MRNA**

(57) Abstract: An in vitro method is provided for screening human female subjects to assess their risk of developing cervical carcinoma which comprises screening the subject for expression of mRNA transcripts from the E6 and optionally the L1 gene of human papillomavirus, wherein subjects positive for expression of L1 and/or E6 mRNA are scored as being at risk of developing cervical carcinoma. Kits for carrying out such methods are also provided.

WO 03/057914 A2